Restriction on public distribution of essential commodities

1355. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether Government plan to restrict the public distribution of essential commodities to the selected people only, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): There is no proposal at present to restrict the Public Distribution System to any section of the society.

Public Distribution System in Rajasthan

1356. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to open more public distribution centres in Rajasthan; if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(b) by when the entire population of Rajasthan will be covered through public distribution system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Under the 20-Point Programme, the State Government of Rajasthan has not intimated any target set by them for opening of Fair Price Shops (FPS) in 1991-92. However, under the proposal to streamline and strengthen the Public Distribution System (PDS) in certain identified areas, the State Government has indicated that about 718 additional FPS are proposed to be opened in these identified areas covered under Desert Development Programme (DDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) and Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP) during the current year. District-wise break up of the additional Fair Price Shops proposed by the Government of Rajasthan is given in the statement. (*See* below)

(b) The existing Public Distribution System covers the entire State of Rajasthan. The additional Fair Price Shops are proposed to provide increased access and facility to the population in the identified areas.

Statement

Number of Fair Price Shops proposed to be opened by Rajasthan Government in the identified areas of the State during the current year in the districts

Name of the district	Number proposed to be opened
1. Sikar	23
2. Jhunjhunu	142
3. Ganganagar	27
4. Nagaur	83
5. Pali	149
6. Jalore	9
7. Bikaner	5
8. Banswara	28
9. Dungarpur	32
10. Kota	38
11. Baran	10
12. Tonk	17
13. Udaipur	50
14. Sirohi	15
15. Jhalawar	90
TOTAL :	718

Centre-State dispute regarding district forums and State Commission

1357. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report captioned "Centre.

States lock horns", in the Tribune dated September 27, 1991;

(b) if so, what is the precise nature of the dispute between the States and the Central Government regarding the district forums and State Commission to be set up under the Consumers' Protection Act, 1986 and the financing thereof; and

(c) in which States these bodies are presently functioning effectively and in which States/Union Territoriets they are not functioning, indicating the stages of development in each of the latter ones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no dispute between the States and the Central Government regarding the district forums and State Commission and financing thereof. It is true that the State Governments have been time and again requesting for financial assistance in the matter. But they have been informed that the setting up of the district forums and State Commission is the responsibility of the State Governments and they are to meet such expenditure from their non-Plan budget.

(c) A statement indicating the position regarding functioning of the State Commissions and District Forums in the States/Union Territories is appended. (*See* below). Central Government has been writting to State Governments to set up the District Forums in each of the districts wherever it has not been done so far.

Statement

Position of implementation of consumer protection Act, 1986 as on 15-11-1991

State/UT	Position of SC	No. of Districts	No. of DFs
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	F	23	23 F
Arunachal Pradesh	F	11	11 F
Assam	F	23	14 F
			9 N
Gujarat	F	20	20 F
Bihar	F	39	39 F
Goa	F	2	2 F
Haryana	F	13	2 F
Himachal Pradesh	F	12	1 F
Karanataka			11 N

1	2	3	4
	F	20	4 F
			16 N
Kerala	F	14	3 F
			11 N
Madhya Pradesh	F	35	45 F
Maharashtra	F	31	30 F
Manipur	N	8	8 N
Meghalaya	N	5	5 N
Mizoram	F	3	3 F
Nagaland	N	7	7 N
Orissa	F	13	13 F
Punjab	F	12	12 F
Rajasthan	F	30	30 F
Sikkim	N	4	4 N
Tamil Nadu	F	21	21 F
Tripura	F	3	3 F
Uttar Pradesh	F	63	63 F
West Bengal	F	17	3 F
			14 N
Andaman & Nicobar	F	2	2 F
Chandigarh (UT)	F	1	1 F
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	F	1	1 F
Delhi	F	1	1 F
			1 N
Daman & Diu	F	2	2 F
Lakshadweep	F	1	1 F
Pondicherry	F	1	1 F

SC: State Commission

DF: District Forum

F : Functioning

N : Notified